DORE AND BREDWARDINE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

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ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR

1965

DORE AND BREDWARDINE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit my Annual Report for the year 1965 in accordance with Article 15(4) and (5) of the Public Health Officers Regulations, 1959 and Circular 1/66 of the Ministry of Health.

In 1965, the estimated population of the Rural District again showed a small decrease but the number of live births was higher and the number of deaths was lower than in 1964.

The Report contains a record of the work of the Public Health Department during the year 1965.

I acknowledge assistance in the preparation of this Report and in the discharge of my duties throughout the year from Mr.E.A.J. Reece, Clerk and Financial Officer, and Mr. R.E. Moore, Public Health Inspector. Also I am indebted to Mr. W.H. Austin, Engineer and Manager to the Herefordshire Water Board, for information respecting the public water supplies.

In conclusion, I wish to place on record my thanks for the support which has always been given me by the Chairman and Members of the Council.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

William Hogg

Medical Officer of Health

7th November, 1966

DORE AND BREDWARDINE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

William Hogg, M.B., B.S., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H., F.R.S.H.

CLERK TO THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

Miss A.O. Gale

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PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR, SANITARY SURVEYOR AND HOUSING DESIGNATED OFFICER

Mr. R.E. Moore, C.R.S.I., M.P.H.I.A.

ADDITIONAL PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

Mr. A.W. Kedward, D.P.H.I. (Joint Board) (Commenced duties 1st February, 1965)

CLERICAL ASSISTANT TO THE PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTORS (Part-time)

Mr. G.W. Perkins

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Hereford

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SECTION A - STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

The District is entirely agricultural in character. There is much impressive scenery, especially in the west where the Black Mountains form a boundary.

Area (in acres)	=	84,532
Number of inhabited houses (31.12.65)	=	2,377
Rateable Value	=	£157,998
Sum represented by a penny rate	=	£615. 0. 0d.
Registrar General's estimated mid-year population	=	7,740
Area comparability factor (births)	=	1.13
Area comparability factor (deaths)	=	1.01

Vital Statistics for the Year

Live Births	=	145
Live birth rate per 1000 population (Crude)	=	18.7
Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births	=	5.5%
Stillbirths	=	Nil
Infant deaths (deaths under 1 year)	=	8

Infant Mortality Rates

Infant deaths per 1000 total live births	=	55.2
Legitimate infant deaths per 1000 legitimate live births	=	43.2
Illegitimate infant deaths per 1000 illegitimate live births	=	250
Neonatal Mortality Rate (deaths under 4 weeks per 1000 live births)	=	41.4
Early Neonatal Mortality Rate (deaths under one week per 1000 live births)	=	34.5

Maternal Mortality (including abortion)

Number of maternal deaths	=	Nil

Population

The 1961 census population of the Rural District was 7,874. At the 1951 census, the population was 8,760.

The Registrar General's estimate of the 1965 mid-year population for the Rural District was 7,740, a decrease of 10 on the figure for 1964.

The population was accommodated in 2,377 dwellings giving an average number of persons per house of 3.24. The natural increase of population for the year (the excess of live births over deaths) was 65.

Births

The total number of live births registered during the year was 145 (75 male and 64 female), giving a crude birth rate of 18.7 per 1,000 of the estimated population. The corrected live birth rate, using the comparability factor of 1.13 was 21.1 per 1,000 population. The number of illegitimate births was 8 (6 male and 2 female). The live births which occurred out of wedlock formed 5.5% of the total live births. The live birth rate for England and Wales for 1965 is 18.1 per 1,000 population. In 1964, there were 128 live births in the Rural District.

Stillbirths

No stillbirths were registered during the year, compared with 2 in 1964. The stillbirth rate for 1965 for England and Wales was 15.7 per 1,000 total (live and still) births.

Deaths

The number of deaths recorded as having occurred within the area was 80 (50 male and 30 female) after deduction of deaths of non-residents occurring within the District and the addition of deaths of residents occurring outside the Rural District. The crude death rate was 10.3 per 1,000 estimated population. The comparability factor is 1.01 and the corrected death rate of the Rural District is 10.4 per 1,000 estimated population. The death rate for England and Wales for 1965 is 11.5 per 1,000 population.

In 1964 there were 92 deaths in the Rural District.

The most frequent cause of death continued to be various forms of heart disease (headings 18, 19 and 20) accounting for 24 deaths.

Almost 75% of the deaths in the Rural District occurred in persons over 65 years of age.

Cancer Deaths

All forms of cancer (headings 10, 13 and 14) caused 16 deaths (9 males and 7 females), giving a corrected death rate of 2.1 per 1,000 population.

In 1964 there were 17 deaths attributed to cancer in the Rural District.

The cancer death rate for England and Wales in 1965 was 2.2 per 1,000 population.

Infantile Deaths

The number of infants under one year of age who died was 8 (6 male and 2 female). The infant mortality rate for the Rural District was 55.2 per 1,000 live births and this rate for the year for England and Wales was 19.0 per 1,000 live births. In 1964 there were 7 infant deaths in the Rural District.

Deaths due to Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea

Two deaths were attributed to gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea.

Deaths due to Acute Notifiable Disease

Four deaths were attributed to pneumonia (2 male and 2 female). Pneumonia was the only acute notifiable disease attributed as cause of death.

Deaths due to Tuberculosis

One death was attributed to respiratory tuberculosis during 1965. The death rate for England and Wales for 1965 from all forms of tuberculosis is 0.048 per 1,000 population.

Table of Deaths according to Cause and Sex

List No.	Cause of Death	Male	Female	Persons
1.	Tuberculosis, respiratory.	1	-	1
10.	Malignant neoplasm, stomach.	2	-	2
13.	Malignant neoplasm, uterus.	-	2	2
14.	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms.	7	5	12
17.	Vascular lesions of nervous system.	4	5	9
18.	Coronary disease, angina.	6	4	10
19.	Hypertension with heart disease.	2	-	2
20.	Other heart disease	6	6	12
21.	Other circulatory disease.	2	1	3
23.	Pneumonia.	2	2	4
24.	Bronchitis.	1	1	2
25.	Other diseases of respiratory system.	1	1	2
27.	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea.	1	1	2
28.	Nephritis and nephrosis.	1	-	1
31.	Congenital malformations.	2	-	2
32.	Other defined and ill defined diseases.	9	2	11
33.	Motor vehicle accidents.	1	-	1
34.	All other accidents.	2	-	2
	All Causes	50	30	80

SECTION B - GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA

Laboratory Facilities

The usual clinical laboratory investigations are made at the Public Health Laboratory at the County Hospital, Hereford.

The following table shows the number of examinations carried out at the Public Health Laboratory on behalf of the Department:-

Urine	=	2
Faeces	=	15
Water (bacteriological)	=	67
Others	=	1

In addition, 16 samples of sewage effluent were sent to the Public Analyst for chemical examination.

Hospitals

The needs of the population are met by the hospitals in the City of Hereford. Accommodation for cases of infectious disease is available at Stretton Sugwas Hospital, and the County Hospital, Hereford.

Ambulances

The ambulances of the City of Hereford are used to meet the need of the inhabitants of the District.

Clinics

A County Council Infant Welfare Clinic is held every Monday afternoon at Kingstone, and at Clifford on the first Wednesday in each month.

National Assistance Act, 1948. Section 50

One burial was carried out by the Council under this Section during the year.

National Assistance Act, 1948. Section 47

No investigations were made under this Section during the year.

SECTION C. SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

Geology

The whole of the area is formed of Old Red Sandstone rocks of the Devonian System, here represented by Upper and Lower Old Red Sandstones and Marls.

Water

All public water supplies in the Rural District, with the exception of the public well at Orcop and St. Margaret's, are supplied by the Herefordshire Water Board. The public wells remain under the control of the District Council. There are also some private piped water supplies in use. There are public standpipes in Clifford and Dorstone.

During the year the Herefordshire Water Board completed the following extensions to public water mains:-

Didley	=	80	yards	3"	dia.	main
Kingstone	=	55	"	"	"	"
Bately Hill	=	800	"	"	"	"
Madley	=	40	"	"	"	"
Three Horse Shoes	=	420	"	"	"	"

The number of samples of water sent to the Public Health Laboratory for bacteriological examination was 67. Of these 29 were from public supplies and all except 9 were of good potable quality. There was difficulty in maintaining the quality of the water at Clifford and Longtown owing to the nature of the supply. Of 38 samples from other supplies 12 were found not to be of good potable quality.

Improvement in the quality of water supplies available in Peterchurch parish is needed.

During 1965 there was a shortage of water in the parishes of Longtown and Clifford.

Drainage and Sewerage

There are public sewerage systems in the parishes of Madley, Kingstone and Ewyas Harold, and a public sewer in Peterchurch parish. During the year, work commenced on the new sewerage and sewage disposal scheme for Peterchurch.

Approval for the Longtown Sewerage Scheme was given subject to an alternative site for the disposal works, but work has not yet commenced.

During the year 16 samples of sewage effluent were sent for examination. Of these, 3 failed to comply with the standards of the Royal Commission.

The chlorination of the sewage at the Madley ejector station and the effluent at the Kingstone Disposal Works before final discharge continued. Chlorination at these two points has produced an improvement in the effluent but reconstruction of the Kingstone sewage disposal works is necessary.

Two samples of effluent from the Ewyas Harold Works complied with the Royal Commission standards.

Fifty-one drains were tested by the Public Health Inspector. The number of drainage inspections made was 138.

The number of new drains constructed in connection with dwellings was 42, and 43 existing drains were reconstructed or repaired.

Closet Accommodation

It is estimated that 65% of the population have the use of water closets; about 18% still use pail closets and the remainder use privies.

The number of new water closets constructed during the year excluding conversions, was 22. In addition, 15 pail closets and 20 privies were converted to water closets. Every effort is made to convert conservancy closets where possible.

Public Cleansing

The Council provides a system of domestic refuse collection in the Rural District, with the exception of Cusop parish. The collection is carried out fortnightly by contract. Refuse disposal is by tipping at King Street Quarry, Ewyas Harold. It is estimated that about 80% of occupied dwellings are included in this collection. In Cusop parish a regular domestic refuse collection is made twice monthly by the Hay-on-Wye Urban District Council.

The Council does not carry out cleansing of cesspools and privies. Such installations on the Council's own property are cleansed when necessary by contractors, and 30 such cleansings were carried out during the year.

Shops, Offices and Railway Premises Act, 1963

Registrations

Class of Premises	No. registered at end of year	No. inspected during year.	Number employed
Offices	-	-	-
Retail Shops	12	3	40
Wholesalesale Shops Warehouses	4	-	23
Catering establishments open to the public. Canteens	-	-	-
Fuel Storage Depots	1	-	1

Three inspections of registered premises were carried out during 1965.

Swimming Baths and Pools

There are no swimming baths or pools open to the public on payment within the area.

Camping Sites - Public Health Act, 1936. Section 269
Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1960

Camping causes no public health problem at the present time in the Rural District. The actual number of sites used for camping purposes during 1965 was 8. The maximum number of campers estimated to be within the District at any one time was 100.

No licences were issued by the Council with respect to camping sites under section 269 of the Public Health Act, 1936.

One site was licensed under Section 3 of the Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1960.

Eradication of Bed Bugs

Two dwelling houses were found to be infested with bed-bugs during the year, and fumigated with Gamexane.

Hydrogen Cyanide Regulations (Fumigation of Buildings) 1951

No notices were received under Article 3 of these Regulations during the year.

Common Lodging Houses

There are no Common Lodging Houses within the Rural District.

Sanitary Inspection of the Area

I am indebted to Mr. R.E. Moore, Public Health Inspector to the Council, for the following statement, furnished under Article 25(20) of the Public Health Officers Regulations, 1959:-

Inspections

Accumulations	=	2
Ashbins and Ashpits	=	21
Bakehouses	=	3
Canteens	=	2
Caravans	=	5
Control of Pests	=	261
Drainage	=	138
Drain Tests	=	51
Filthy and Verminous Premises	=	5
Factories(with Mechanical power)	=	2
Food Premises	=	23
Housing (Other)	=	392
Ice Cream (Registered Premises)	=	9
Infectious Disease	=	18
Licensed Victuallers' Premises	=	6
Nuisances	=	22
Offensive Smells	=	35
Overcrowding	=	3
Petroleum Stores	=	7
Refuse Tips	=	25
Schools	=	6
Sewage Disposal Works	=	381
Sewers	=	41
Shops	=	22
Swimming Baths and Pools	=	4
Unsound Food	=	2
Water Supply	=	97
Work Places	=	420
Offices	=	3
Building Byelaws	=	69
Other Visits (unclassified)	=	329

Notices Issued

Informal	=	10
Statutory re Housing	=	-
Statutory under other Acts	=	-

Summary of Defects Remedied

Accumulations removed	=	2
Cesspools and septic tanks cleansed	=	30
Domestic Baths provided	=	60
Drains and Gullies cleared	=	12
Drains repaired	=	2
New drains provided	=	78
Defective roofs repaired	=	14
Defective eaves gutters repaired	=	38
Defective brickwork repaired	=	16
Disinfestions after infectious disease	=	3
Disinfestations	=	2
Defective windows repaired	=	18
Defective chimneys repaired	=	11
Dampness of floors and walls remedied	=	3
Cisterns cleansed or repaired	=	11
Closets repaired or renewed	=	24
Filthy and Verminous Premises cleansed	=	2
New gullies provided	=	94
Oil or Grease Traps installed	=	1
Paving repaired	=	5
Privies converted to water closets	=	7
Rainwater pipes provided or repaired	=	35
New sinks provided	=	43
Soil pipes repaired	=	2
Sanitary fittings provided	=	5
Ventilation improved	=	7
Water supplies provided	=	5
Miscellaneous defects remedied	=	94

Petroleum Regulations

Five new licences permitting the storage of petroleum spirit were granted during the year. One storage installation was discontinued and there are now 39 installations registered with the Council.

The number of inspections made were 7.

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949

The following is a record of the work carried out during 1965:-

	Premises inspected	Mice	Infestations Rats Major	Infestations Rats Minor	No. of properties treated	Statutory Notices
Local Authorities's Properties	1	-	6	-	1	-
Dwelling Houses Houses	6	-	-	-	-	-
All other (including business) premises	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	7	-	6	-	1	-

The Council dispensed with the services of the part-time Rodent Control Officer formerly employed jointly with two other Local Authorities. This work was placed on the Public Health Inspector who is unable to devote sufficient time to the work. Properties not owned by the Council are not inspected. Only 24 inspections were made. The Council does not adequately carry out the duties imposed by the Act.

Agricultural (Safety, Health and Welfare Provisions) Act, 1956

No inspections were made under this Act during the year.

Factories Acts 1961

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health in respect of the year 1965 for the Rural District of Dore and Bredwardine, in the County of Hereford.

Part I of Act

1. Inspections made for the purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by the Public Health Inspector)

Premises	Number on Register	Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 and 6 are to be enforced by the Local Authorities	-	-	-	-
Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	16	1	-	-
Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers's premises)	108	420	-	-
Total	124	421	-	-

2. Cases in which DEFECTS were found.

No defects were found.

During the year 53 workplaces were removed from the factories register.

Outworkers

There are no outworkers registered with the Local Authority.

SECTION D - HOUSING

During the year no Council houses were completed, or under construction at the end of the year.

The number of Council houses occupied at the end of the year was 346. These are situated in 14 parishes; Kingstone with 155 houses on three estates having the greatest number for any parish.

Private owners completed 9 dwellings and had 29 under construction at the end of the year.

Temporary Dwellings

During the year 13 temporary dwellings at Kingstone ceased to be occupied.

Inspection of Dwelling Houses during the Year

1.	Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	=	187
2.	Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	=	3
3.	Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	=	96

Housing Act, 1957. Sections 16 and 17

No demolition or closing orders were made by the Council during the year.

Housing Act, 1957. Part IV - Overcrowding

At the beginning of the year 9 dwellings were known to be overcrowded. During the year two new cases of overcrowding were reported, so that at the end of the year 11 cases remained as no cases were relieved during the year.

The Housing (Financial Provisions) Act, 1958
Section 30

Twelve grants were made by the Council under this section for the improvement of dwellings.

These grants are discretionary grants and are made in suitable cases where the dwellings can be rendered fit.

Housing (Financial Provisions) Act 1958. Section 43
House Purchase and Housing Act 1959. Section 3

One loan was made by the Council to assist in house purchase and one loan for housing improvement.

House Purchase and Housing Act 1959. Section 4

Twentyseven grants under this section were made by the Council during the year for the provision of standard amenities in dwelling houses.

Unfit Dwellings made Fit

Fortytwo unfit dwellings were made fit.

SECTION E - INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

The Milk and Dairies (General) Regulations, 1959

The number of distributors registered with the Council at the end of the year under the Milk and Dairies (General) Regulations was 6.

There are no plants for the processing of milk situated in the Rural District, which is a specified area.

Ice Cream

No manufacture of ice cream is carried on within the Rural District.

The number of premises registered with the Local Authority for the storage and sale of ice cream was 20.

Vehicles from which the sale of ice cream is made continue to ply for trade, the inspection of these vehicles is somewhat difficult.

Shell Fish

The sale of occasional jars of preserved shell fish appears to form the sale of shellfish within the Rural District. No action was necessary with regard to the sale of this food.

Water Cress

No action was necessary in connection with this food.

Meat
Slaughterhouses Act 1958

There are no slaughterhouses in use within the Rural District.

Slaughter of Animals Act, 1958

Four licences for slaughtermen were issued by the Council during the year. One of these permitted the holder to slaughter swine and sheep, and three permitted the slaughter of swine only.

Food Poisoning

No notification of food poisoning was received during the year.

Food and Drugs Act, 1955. Section 16

Three premises were registered with the Council under this Act.

Byelaws as to the Handling, etc, of Food

No infringement of these byelaws was detected.

Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1960

All premises complied with the Regulations during the year. The number of inspections made in connection with registered food premises was 3.

Unsound Food

The following food was found to be unsound and surrendered:-

Quantity	Food	Cause of unsoundness
24 lbs.	Liver	Dehydration and putrefaction.
5 x 10 lb. tins	Apricots	Defective tins.
1 x 10 lb. tin	Pulp Apricot	" "
2 x 10 lb. tins	Peaches	" "
3 x $6\frac{3}{4}$ lb. tins	Pineapple Crush	" "
1 x 6 lb. tin	Corned Beef	Contamination.

SECTION F - PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS DISEASE

The incidence of acute notifiable disease in the Rural District was very low. Only 15 notifications were received compared with 76 in the previous year, giving a notification rate of 1.9 per 1,000 estimated population.

The Rural District continued to be free from diphtheria, poliomyelitis, dysentery and enteric fevers.

Confirmed Cases of Infectious Disease in each Quarter in 1965

Disease	1st Quarter	2nd Quarter	3rd Quarter	4th Quarter	Year
Erysipelas	1	-	-	-	1
Pneumonia	-	-	-	1	1
Measles	3	-	5	-	8
Scarlet Fever	-	1	-	3	4
Dysentery	-	-	-	1	1
All Diseases	4	1	5	5	15

Measles

Only 8 notifications of measles were received compared with 71 during 1964, the third quarter of the year being the period of maximum incidence.

Only the parishes of Dorestone and Madley were involved - the Dorstone cases (2) occurring in the first quarter of the year and the Madley cases in the third quarter.

Analysis of notified cases according to certain Age Groups - 1965

Disease	0+	1+	2+	3+	4+	5+	10+	15+	25+	35+	45+	65+	All Ages
Measles	1	-	2	1	1	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	8
Pneumonia	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Scarlet Fever	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	4
Erysipelas	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
Dysentery	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
All Diseases	1	-	3	2	1	5	2	-	-	-	1	-	15

Scarlet Fever

Only 4 cases of scarlet fever were notified. All cases occurred in different parishes, and no connection between the cases was found.

Pneumonia

Only one notification of pneumonia was received. Pneumonia was the only acute notifiable disease attributed as cause of death, four deaths being due to pneumonia, three less than in the previous year.

Tuberculosis

At the beginning of the year there were 38 cases of tuberculosis (30 respiratory and 8 non-respiratory) on the register. During the year 2 cases of respiratory disease were added, one of these being a new infection. Four cases of respiratory disease were taken off the register, three of these having recovered. At the end of the year 36 cases (28 respiratory and 8 non-respiratory) remained on the register.

There was one death in the Rural District in 1965 attributed to respiratory tuberculosis. ~~The death rate for England and Wales for 1965~~

The tuberculosis (all forms) death rate for England and Wales for 1965 was 0.048 per 1,000 population.

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